



**American Legion
Fallen Heroes Mandarin Post #372
(904) 297-8344
www.alpost372fl.org**



August 14 , 2025

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES

A General Assembly meeting was convened at 1900.

The meeting was opened with Prayer conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara. Opening ceremonies were conducted in accordance with American Legion traditions.

Commander requests names of any one sick or in distress: George Herd, Carl Zuber, Bob Sussan & wife, Becky Murphy, Bob German, Carlton German Carlton, Daniel Hicks, Becky Murphy, Chuck Hurd, Evert Perry.

2 visitors were present: John Rhow (S?), Bernard Mortenson, 14 members in attendance

A roll call of officers was conducted. Quorum achieved.

A motion was made by Karen Tracy, Second by Dan Taszarek to accept the minutes of the July General Assembly. The minutes were accepted. A motion was made by Mike Montenara to suspend the reading of the May Executive meeting. Second by Jeff Volpe. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: A donation request made by Tour of Duty was denied. Member Joe Solomone made a suggestion to have Blue Cross present at a meeting for presentation; upon further review, member agreed to organize a health fair when the post opened and invite Blue Cross to the event. Post 283 has a chair lift for donation. Must pick up and install yourself.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commander Dan Hempsall reports on Resignation of Post Commander Craig Bernat. Commander Hempsall has served the American Legion for 28 years

holding several high level positions in Michigan including 1st Vice for Department of Michigan, and numerous positions at Post 372, including Past Commander, Judge Advocate, and is a Charter Member. Dan will be assuming Commander of Post 372 until relieved. Also changes to Post leadership Steve Sullivan will be assuming duties of 1st Vice Commander. 3rd Jon Riddle will be assuming duties of 3rd Vice Commander,

1st Vice Commander Steve Sullivan membership reports 2 new members; Alton Bradley, Louis Wiesanberg; Membership report; 52.52% of quota, 3rd place in the 5th district out of 17 posts, based on 8/14/25 report. Current status of membership: New members 1, PUFL 32, renewal 117, post 400 1 AD 4, total paid 146/ Post Goal 278.

Finance Officer Paul Arambula absent approved; report given by Commander Hempsall; he provided the monthly financial report. A motion to accept the Finance Report pending audit was made by Mike Montenara and second by Dan Taszarek,

Chaplain Mike Montenara: no report.

Judge Advocate: Bob Sussan absent excused no report.

Sergeant-At-Arms: Daniel Taszarek; nothing to report

Service Officer Barry Litsky absent excused nothing to report

Historian Frank Nichols, Reports on progress of members sending photos and details of events.

Resource Officer; Barry Litsky absent no report

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS;

Mark Shelton no report

Alan Painter no report absent excused

Joe Maltese absent excused no report

Barry Litsky reports: Absent no report

Karen Tracy; Reports on Post coins for sale \$15 each. Available at meetings.

Bob Sussan Absent Excused no report

PROGRAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism: Dan Hempsall No report

Oratorical: Dan Hempsall Reports new District Chairperson has contacted all high schools in District 5 informing them about the program, no other information at this time.

American Legion Riders fireside chat Nothing scheduled for August
Sept 14th 2025 Post 372 ALR 5th Annual 9/11 Poker Run; Benefiting Project Vet Relief and ALR 372 rider down fund. Bring any donations, cash, booze, gift cards to the next general meeting.

SAL reports Vice Commander Charlie McFarland reports; We are at 6 members, our goal 35.

Auxiliary: Has a new basket in progress, looking at \$2000 value. Basket will be displayed at Dicks wings.

Audit committee Nothing to report

Blood Drive Position is open nothing to report

Boys State Alan Painter: Absent Excused nothing to report

Canceled Stamp program: Bring in canceled stamps to any meeting for Stamps For Veterans rehabilitation program.

Children & Youth: Position open nothing to report

Law and Order Barry Litsky absent nothing to report

School Medals Alan Painter Absent Excused; Nothing to report

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) position open nothing to report

Service Officer: Barry Litsky absent no report

OLD BUSINESS

New home update; in need of new current surveys and updated building layout. Pending new signatures for the right-a- way.

Post Fundraising, bricks, mugs, aluminum cans. Coins. Corporate sponsorship The storage unit is full and needs funds for additional space. Cost was \$86 monthly going to \$106.

Social nights meeting at Monkey's Uncle. Mandarin on Tuesdays at 6pm for trivia and same night at Dicks Wings for Bingo 6pm. Shores Pub is Thursday 6pm.

Early Bird/ Christmas party dinner. Will be at Mandarin Moose Lodge Saturday December 6th, more information to follow.

Website Membership- A renewal option will be placed on site for Post and SAL renewals using Zeffy. Also a site for joining Post. New Applicants will have to "Affirm" that they are qualified to join legion with Honorable Discharge and Provide Proof to 1st Vice with Submission/presentation of DD214.

WEBSITE Karen Tracy brought up the decision about the current website expiring March 26. 2026. Previously Jon Riddle offered to host and create a new site for us at no charge. Our current WEBMAIL expires March 2026.

Membership Dues; The Department is raising membership dues by \$3 in 2027. Our post voted at last month's meeting to raise our yearly dues from \$50 to \$55 in 2027.

NEW BUSINESS:

Legacy Ride: Last Night's stop is in Jacksonville at the POW/MIA memorial. The next morning the riders leave from there to the National Convention in Tampa FL.

ALR Director Allan Stroud asked the Post to donate A Raffle Basket for Ride on 9/14/2025. A motion was made by Karen Tracy to donate \$50 toward a basket, 2nd by Steve Sullivan. The motion passed; member Frank Nichols agreed to collect donations for the basket and deliver it to Ride the morning of ride on 9/14/2025.

District 5 is doing a disaster relief program. Each post is tasked to fill 20- 5 gallon buckets with disaster relief items. When buckets become available Frank Nichols will coordinate pick up, distribution and returning the buckets. 3 Posts in District 5 have volunteered to stage the buckets and deliver when an event where buckets are needed occurs. More information provided as it is updated.

THE COMMANDER asks if there is anything more for the good of the Legion. Member Mark Shelton welcomes all guests and new members to the post. A prayer was conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara. Closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was closed at 1955 hours.

Minutes taken by Frank Nichols Adjutant